

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A method ~~for coordinating a computation upon a plurality of~~
2 ~~data containers deployed at a plurality of nodes, comprising:~~ comprising
3 performing a machine-executed operation involving instructions, wherein the
4 machine-executed operation is at least one of:
5 A) sending said instructions over transmission media;
6 B) receiving said instructions over transmission media;
7 C) storing said instructions onto a machine-readable storage medium; and
8 D) executing the instructions;
9 wherein said instructions are instructions which, when executed by one or more
10 processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:
11 at each node of [[the]] a plurality of nodes, executing a corresponding
12 process configured for starting a program to perform the
13 computation in response to a command received from a database
14 system; and
15 at [[the]] a database system, receiving a statement specifying an external
16 routine for performing [[the]] a computation and, in response to
17 receiving the statement:
18 concurrently transmitting a plurality of commands for performing the
19 computation to each said corresponding process;
20 receiving results from each said corresponding process; and
21 completing processing of the statement based on the results received from
22 each said corresponding process.
- 1 2. (Currently amended) A method ~~for coordinating a computation upon a plurality of~~
2 ~~data containers deployed at a plurality of nodes, comprising:~~ comprising
3 performing a machine-executed operation involving instructions, wherein the

4 machine-executed operation is at least one of:
5 A) sending said instructions over transmission media;
6 B) receiving said instructions over transmission media;
7 C) storing said instructions onto a machine-readable storage medium; and
8 D) executing the instructions;
9 wherein said instructions are instructions which, when executed by one or more
10 processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:
11 receiving a statement₁ at a database system₁ specifying an external routine
12 for performing the computation; and
13 in response to receiving the statement:
14 transmitting a plurality of commands for performing the
15 computation to a plurality of respective processes
16 ~~configured for starting a plurality of respective programs to~~
17 ~~perform the computation in response to the commands;~~
18 receiving results from each said corresponding process; and
19 completing processing of the statement based on the results
20 received from each said corresponding process.

1 3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2, ~~further comprising wherein~~
2 said instructions, when executed by the one or more processors, further cause the
3 one or more processors to perform the step of:

4 determining a cohort of nodes from among [[the]] a plurality of nodes capable of
5 performing the computation,
6 wherein the plurality of the respective processes correspond to the cohort of the
7 nodes.

1 4. (Original) A method according to claim 3, wherein the plurality of nodes includes
2 at least one node not included in the cohort of the nodes.

1 5. (Original) A method according to claim 3, wherein said determining is based on a
2 degree of parallelism supported by each of the nodes.

1 6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 3, ~~further comprising wherein~~

2 said instructions, when executed by the one or more processors, further cause the
3 one or more processors to perform the step of [[access]] accessing a registry
4 specifying an association between the programs and the data containers, wherein
5 said determining is based on the association between the programs and the data
6 containers.

1 7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 3, ~~further comprising wherein~~
2 said instructions, when executed by the one or more processors, further cause the
3 one or more processors to perform the step of accessing a registry specifying
4 respective attributes for the data containers, wherein said determining is based on
5 matching the respective attributes for the data containers with a parameter in the
6 statement.

1 8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 3, ~~further comprising wherein~~
2 said instructions, when executed by the one or more processors, further cause the
3 one or more processors to perform the step of accessing a registry specifying a
4 partitioning function associated with the programs and the data containers,
5 wherein said determining is based on the results from executing the partitioning
6 function associated with the programs and the data containers.

1 9. (Currently amended) A method according to claim [[2]] 17, wherein at least some
2 of the programs, started by each of the respective processes, execute in parallel.

1 10. (Cancelled).

1 11. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the steps of concurrently transmitting,
2 receiving results, and completing processing are performed by said database
3 system.

1 12. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of nodes is
2 implemented using a different type of hardware, operation system software, or
3 application software than said database system.

1 13. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the corresponding process, executed on

2 each node of said plurality of nodes, is configured to start a program to perform
3 the computation in response to a command received from said database system.

1 14. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein each said corresponding process instructs
2 a program to perform the computation upon a data container.

1 15. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein the steps of transmitting the plurality of
2 commands, receiving results, and completing processing are performed by said
3 database system.

1 16. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein each of the plurality of respective
2 processes is executing on one of a plurality of nodes, and wherein at least one of
3 said plurality of nodes is implemented using a different type of hardware,
4 operation system software, or application software than said database system.

1 17. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein each of the respective processes is
2 configured to start a program to perform the computation in response to said
3 commands.

1 18. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein each said corresponding process instructs
2 a program to perform the computation upon a data container.